

• Jonathan Brandis is back in *The NeverEnding Story 2*, with Falkor and a rock biter.



SUMMER SIZZLERS!

Your guide to the hottest movies in town this holiday season

WHILE belts are tightening in most industries, the movie business continues to bustle. Over the next few months cinemas will feature a sensational line-up of summer blockbusters.

And, although there's plenty to satisfy action fans, family films, including *Home Alone*, *Three Men And A Little Lady* and *Look Who's Talking Too* look set to be among the top box office hits.

Another eagerly-awaited release is Paul Hogan's latest teaming with

wife Linda Kozlowski, *Almost An Angel*, an offering from UIP. It's all about a petty crook who believes he is dead returning to earth as an angel to do good deeds.

Other holiday offerings from UIP include:

• *Rocky V*, with Sly Stallone back as Rocky Balboa. This time he's broke, badly beaten and back home where he trains a young protege to be the next Rocky.

• Animated fun from Walt Disney in *The Rescuers* (left) and *Ducktales*.





- Sly Stallone . . . beaten and broke in *Rocky V*.
- LEFT: The *Memphis Belle* and its crew . . . a special story about a special plane.

a very new breed of hero. Like Batman and others, Dark Man exhausts himself in the pursuit of justice. Our own Colin Friel is also in this one, along with LA Law's Larry Drake.

Village Roadshow has some worthwhile offerings for the New Year, headed by *Three Men And A Little Lady*, starring Ted Danson, Tom Selleck and Steve Guttenberg. It's a sequel to the smash hit *Three Men And A Baby* and is a guaranteed box office winner.

Others from Village Roadshow include:

- *The NeverEnding Story 2*, another storybook action fantasy about a small boy who's been called back to the land of Fantasia by its childlike empress.

- *Memphis Belle*, an old-fashioned yarn about a very special World War II bomber plane and its crew of 10 extraordinary young men. Stars include Matthew Modine, Billy Zane, Eric Stolz and Sean Astin.

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- *Ghost Dad*, starring Bill Cosby as America's funniest father. He disappears, flies, walks through doors and falls through floors, all for the love of his family.

- *Kindergarten Cop*, featuring Arnold Schwarzenegger in his toughest role yet. He plays an undercover cop posing as a kinder teacher who has to face a classroom of intractable five-year-olds.

- *Dark Man*, an action-drama, starring Liam Neeson as

- John Travolta and Kirsty Alley "talking" again, and right, Anne Brochet (as Roxanne) with co-stars in *Cyrano De Bergerac*.



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● *The Rescuers*, a Walt Disney animated comedy/fantasy which follows the adventures of two heroic mice from the Devil's Bayou to the villainous Madame Medusa.

● *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down*, an intense drama starring Victoria Abril. It is about a young man who kidnaps a young woman and keeps her prisoner in her own house hoping she'll fall in love with him.

● *Arachnophobia*, a horror adventure, starring Jeff Daniels, Julian Sand and John Goodman. It's about a small town invaded by deadly South American spiders. Definitely one to see with someone you love!

● *Ducktales*, animated fare in which Scrooge McDuck discovers a genie in a magic lamp.

● *Green Card*, a drama about a career woman who agrees to marry a gifted French composer so he can stay and work in the U.S. Naturally there are complications with bureaucracy — and the heart. It stars Gerard Depardieu and Andie McDowell.

New films from Hoyts include:

● *Home Alone*, the latest John Hughes hit. This film, which has already done huge business in the U.S., is the story of 10-year-old Kevin McCallister (Macaulay Culkin). When

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his family rush off on a three-day holiday before Christmas, they accidentally leave the youngster behind to deck the halls — not with holly — but with a barrage of boobytraps to keep a pair of burglars at bay.

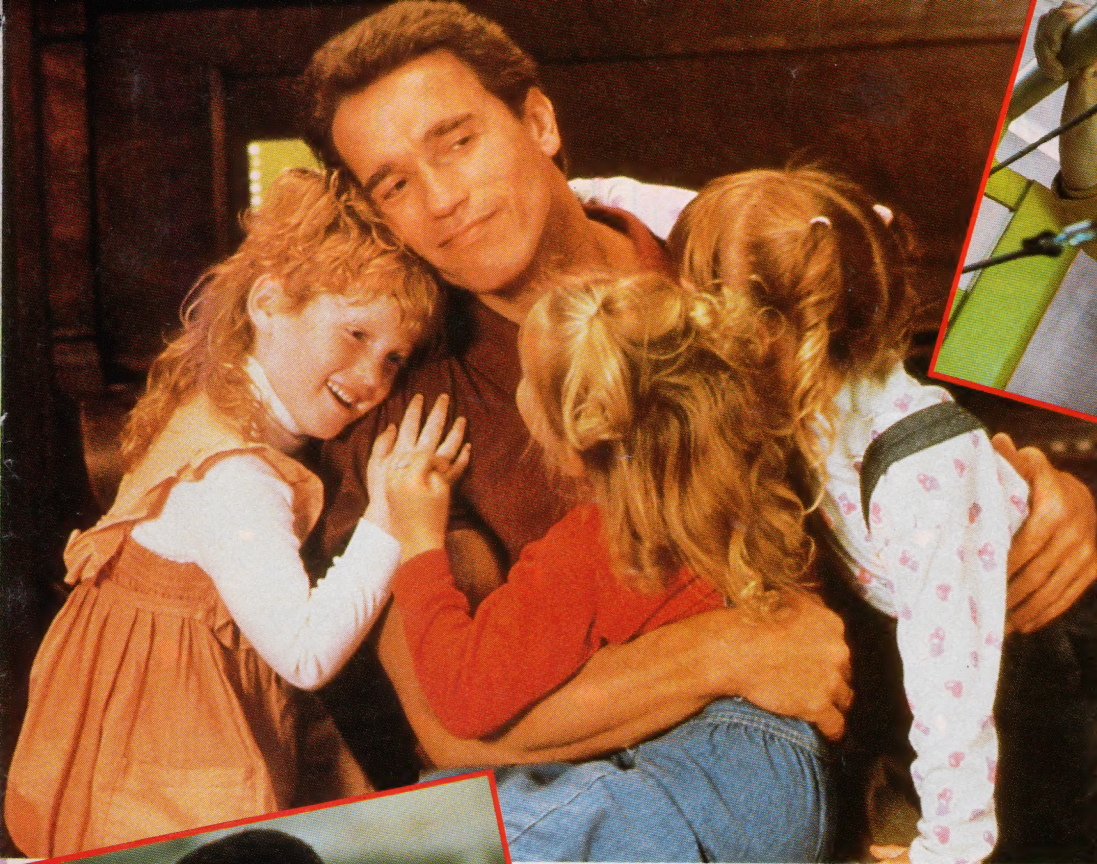
● *Total Recall*, an Arnold Schwarzenegger blockbuster set in the year 2084. Arnie plays married man Doug Quaid, a tough construction worker haunted by recurring dreams of another life and another woman — on Mars. It's a futuristic odyssey of self-discovery punctuated with humor and instant action.

● *What The Moon Saw*, a fantasy tale about a young boy's dream in which he is Sinbad the sailor. There is a lot of good work from young Andrew Shephard, Kim Gynell, Danielle Spencer, Mark Hennessy and Max Phipps.

● *Look Who's Talking Too*, the

● Paul Hogan is a bad guy doing good in *Almost An Angel* and, below, Macaulay Culkin shows a little devil keeping the bad guys out in *Home Alone*.





performances by Edward Clements, Christopher Eigeman and Carolyn Farina.

● *Cyrano De Bergerac*, just released in independent theatres. The winner of the Cannes Film Festival Best Actor, Gerard Depardieu, gives a bravura performance in this colorful and entertaining saga about a bully, a braggart

— but a very gallant man.

● *Pump Up The Volume*, a comedy/drama which takes an emotional look at the teen world of the Nineties. Heart-throb Christian Slater plays a shy teenager who becomes a cult hero when he creates a pirate radio station.

● *Tatie Danielle*, a French box-office winner. This drama is about a ruthless old woman who destroys the lives of all around her. Veteran actress Tilla Hinton is maliciously mildew and superb.

Big films out in February will include *Dangerous Games* (Marcus Graham), *Hamlet* (Mel Gibson), *Navy S-E-A-L-S* (Charlie Sheen), *The Grifters* (Angelica Huston), *Mr Destiny* (Jim Belushi), *The Rookie* (Clint Eastwood), *Bonfire Of The Vanities* (Tom Hanks), *Longtime Performance* (Bruce Davison), *Guilty By Suspicion* (Robert De Niro), *Impromptu* (Judy Davis), *Narrow Margin* (Gene Hackman), and *Jacob's Ladder* (Tim Robbins).

Compiled by Nicola Murphy and Garry Shelley



● It's action all the way for Arnold Schwarzenegger in *Total Recall*, but he faces tougher foes in *Kindergarten Cop*. LEFT: Danny Glover goes to "war" in *Predator 2*.

sequel to you-know-what, starring John Travolta and the voices of Bruce Willis and Roseanne Barr. As with its predecessor, there are laughs aplenty.

● *Predator 2*, set in 1997 Los Angeles, where the police force is locked in open warfare against the drug lords and their vicious criminal gangs. It stars Gary Busey, Danny Glover and Maria Conchita Alonso and, naturally, there's lots of action.

● *Weekend With Kate*, a romantic comedy by the late Aussie director Arch Nicholson. Colin Friels, Catherine McClements and Jerome Ehlers are in a love triangle that proves weekend get-aways are not what they're cracked up to be!

Independent releases include:

● *Metropolitan*, voted by Rolling Stone magazine as "the best film of the year". It is a delightfully-comic look at Manhattan's vanishing debutante scene and its sudden infiltration by a young man from the other side of town. The critics have raved about per-

● Nancy Travis, Tom Selleck and Robin Weisman sort out their problems in *Three Men And A Little Lady*, and right, it's not easy taking on the spiders in *Arachnophobia*.

